



WIND ENERGY POWERS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COMMUNITIES

The Ocotillo Wind Project in Imperial Valley, California, is uniquely located across 12,500 acres of public lands. The 265-megawatt (MW) wind energy facility generates enough clean power to meet the annual electricity needs of 125,000 southern California homes, and keeps 360,000 tons of carbon emissions out of the atmosphere each year. Ocotillo Wind also holds the title as the first wind energy project to connect to the Sunrise Power Link transmission line, helping the state to increase overall energy reliability.

BY THE NUMBERS

- **112** wind turbines
- **12,500** acres public lands
- **360,000** tons CO₂ eliminated
- **\$500M** in investment

COMMUNITY IMPACT

The Ocotillo Wind Community Benefits Program was established in conjunction with the project to support community education initiatives, workforce development, and other local causes. Three funds, the Ocotillo Wind Community Fund, the Ocotillo Wind Education Fund, and the Ocotillo Wind Imperial Valley Fund, will be administered over the lifetime of the facility.

Comprised of 112 American-made wind turbines, the plant's towers were manufactured at home in California. At the peak of construction, the plant sparked 350 local jobs, using subcontractors and suppliers local to the area. By 2013, the plant created 20 permanent operational jobs in operations, as well as additional contractors for routine maintenance. The project was also developed in with consultation with tribal communities local to the Yuha Desert.

Since launching in 2013, Ocotillo Wind has attracted more than \$500 million in investment to the Imperial Valley, creating a predictable income stream for local farmers and property-owners. The plant is also projected to provide more than \$100 million to local jurisdictions over the facility's 30-year lifetime. This revenue directly benefits the local Imperial Valley College, Imperial Unified School District, County Fire Protection, Imperial County Office of Education, and the County Library System.

SUPPORT MORE PROJECTS LIKE THESE

Making the production tax credit (PTC) for wind refundable, supporting domestic manufacturing through incentives like the 48C tax credit, and encouraging advanced energy development in rural and agricultural communities can bring more projects like this to California.